

Matthews Veterans Advisory Committee

December 5th, 2018

Minutes

Chairperson Tom Cannon called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm at Matthews Town Hall with a quorum present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Committee Members present: Tom Cannon, Jim Thurman, Larry Stawicki, Ilse York, Michael Vento, Charleen Thompson, Michael Kipp, Janet Perkins, Charleen Thompson, Freddie Baylor.

Guests Welcomed: none

Minutes of November, 2018: Minutes were approved as submitted

Old Business:

1: Subcommittee 1. Awareness: Tom brought up that this month the MVAC committee will start its third year. We have done a lot since then with quite a few events this year. He brought up the Korean and Vietnam War Exhibit, Veterans Breakfast, Purple Heart signs (4 total) and two parking signs, the Matthews Alive Parade with 3 vehicles, manned a table at Matthews Alive, and maintained the MVAC Calendar. We also updated MVAC trifold and placed handouts in the display in the main lobby downstairs. The MVAC convinced the Town to endorse the Veterans Day event, which is led by the American Legion Post 235. MVAC developed the concept of a first Veteran of the Year award and met with the Mayor to gain his support of this idea including a Mayor's Medal to be awarded. He wanted to let everyone know that we have come a long way and have accomplished a lot since the first year. He thanked us all for our hard work in the past and looks forward to moving forward this next year.

2: Subcommittee 2. Resources and Collaboration: Mike gave us update on the rolling calendar and wanted to know if anyone would be against the display of the

calendar links and not spend time to copy and paste the same info off existing calendars. This would make sure that veterans have access to them via one link to get all the updates which would be up to date the whole time. MVAC concurred.

They are also still working on a trifold describing why it is important for Matthews businesses to hire veterans.

Larry would try to contact Nico again and have him check on applicants from Matthews for the next Honor Flight this is on May 11, 2019; one is in Charlotte and one is in the Ashville area. Jack expressed his concern on the liability for us and the city, but per Larry we would be covered under the Sovereign Immunity Act. Larry also stated that we need more items to put into the display stand. Ilse advised him to contact AAFEEs and ACS on the local base in Fayetteville and Columbia to see if they do not have any information that they would like to display.

3: Subcommittee 3. Communications Charleen made us aware that all signs are installed and placed, 4 Purple Heart and 2 Purple Heart parking signs. She showed us the box for the Mayors Medal with the certificates and the holder. Ilse requested information on the funds that were raised by Rob from Seaboard, Temple Mojo and the Beer Temple. She will contact Dessi to see what the status is on that money. Per Charleen, the Little Heroes Playground is at a standstill as this will be a project for the next physical year, she indicated that Corey King would keep us posted on any new developments as they occur.

4: Subcommittee 4: Executive:

Incorporated below.

New Business:

The MVAC By-Laws were reviewed for understanding and with discussion if MVAC should recommend any changes to them. Janet moved that we vote to show we did not want any changes to the current By-Laws. The vote passed. We all understand the prime role of our committee is in an advisory function to the

Town. We can have some events, but we need to make sure that we are having events that we can handle. Things like Korean and Vietnam War Exhibit, are more than we can manage. Mayor Bailey's guidance is to find another organization to conduct it with MVAC's approval.

We then discussed what events we should have between now and the end of the Fiscal Year. Per Larry, he agrees that we do not need to do events that require man power like a Veterans Day Parade, we need to be smarter about our events. So per Tom, this fiscal year we have the Korean and Vietnam War memorial left, Honor flight (almost completed), Veteran of the year (completed), Breakfast for the Veterans in June, (Voted to stay) Display in the main lobby (voted to stay) and the calendar, almost completed per Larry and Mike.

Discussion on the need for sub-committees was held. Charleen and Larry both agreed that they could be dissolved and that we should have more task oriented committees so that we all have a chance to work with one another. Per Charleen let us vote on that and per Tom (who withheld his vote) they were all in favor to dissolve the sub committees. Per Jack if this is what we want to do, we need to all come up with one event that we want to be a part of for the remainder of the year and maybe come up with some new event. Ilse addressed to maybe have two choices, so we do not have everyone select the same task. She will send out a reminder email to get everyone's vote to include the people that cannot be there on January 2, 2019.

Tom stated we should be thinking about what we want to do in FY-2020 beginning in July 2019. We will work through those ideas and potential expenditures in February and March. The proposed Budget must be prepared to review with The Town Manager no later than early April.

We lost members and per the committee there should be a consequence for the people that are not attending the committee meetings. We are not following the guidance in the By-Laws. Ilse will start keeping track on who is present and who is not.

Treasurer's Report: Jack indicated that we had \$434.00 to start, then we got \$2500 from the town and we received \$810.00 from Seaboard. We spend \$657.00 and have around \$3000 left

Chairperson /Vice Chairperson Comments- Tom indicated that we need to have more people present for the meetings. Ilse will send out a list of the topics prior to the January meeting to include the new task orientated sub committees we want to be on. If someone is not attending in person then email Ilse the answer or selections before the meeting January 2, 2019. Ilse indicated that she will provide some snacks and drinks to have a nice meeting in fellowship of Christmas and the New Year.

Comments-Town Council Liaison: Hazen was not present and not represented so there are not any update from the town at this time.

Open Comments:

The meeting was adjourned at 9 pm.

Submitted by:

Ilse York, Secretary